

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (original): System for executing a software application comprising

A computer system connected to a plurality of input/output interfaces (11-14) and a database (6),

The computer system being arranged for implementing a generic application engine (5) and for receiving an application specification (10) as input for the generic application engine (5),

Which generic application engine (5) is connected to the plurality of input/output interfaces and to the database (6), the generic application engine (5) being arranged to use a set of functional components, such as database operations, logical operations, presentation functions, user input/output interfaces, logging and monitoring, to convert the application specification (10) into the software application,

The application specification(10) comprising:

a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;

b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common roles with regard to the software application;
and

c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes.

Claim 2 (original): System according to claim 1, in which a data class hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended data class as comprising one or more inherited characteristics of an associated super data class.

Claim 3 (currently amended): System according to claim 1-~~or 2~~, in which the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of fields, each field representing an element for storing data values relating to an object.

Claim 4 (original): System according to claim 3, in which a field hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended field as comprising one or more inherited field characteristics of an associated super field.

Claim 5 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the~~ claim 1 to 4, in which the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of categories, which can be used to structure all data related to an object.

Claim 6 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, in which the application specification (1) further comprises a specification of a plurality of domains, a domain being a list of lookup values that can be referenced to from the specification of fields.

Claim 7 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 6~~, claim 1 ~~in which~~ wherein the permissions are chosen from the group of: select permission; read permission; update permission; insert permission; copy permission; delete permission.

Claim 8 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the value of each permission is one of the group of: no; yes; follow foreign object; own; constraint.

Claim 9 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the claims 1 through 8~~, ~~in which~~ claim 1, wherein the application specification (10) comprises a computational specification (8) for describing further computational or logic functional parts of the software application.

Claim 10 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of the claims 1 through 9~~, ~~in which~~ claim 1, wherein the application specification (1) comprises an appearance specification (9) for defining non-functional parts of the software application, such as user interface parts.

Claim 11 (currently amended): System according to ~~one of claims 1 through 10~~, in
which claim 1, wherein the application specification (10) comprises an XML file.

Claim 12 (currently amended): System for building a software application
comprising an input/output device (22), memory means (21) and processing means (20)
connected to the input/output device and memory means, the processing means (2) being
arranged for defining an application specification (10), using the input/output device (22), and to
store the application specification (10) in the memory means (21), which application
specification can be input in a system for executing a software application according to ~~one of~~
~~claims 1 through 11~~ claim 1.

Claim 13 (original): Method for executing a software application comprising
Inputting an application specification (10) into a generic application engine (5),
Which generic application engine (5) is connected to a plurality of input/output interfaces
and to a database (6), the generic application engine (5) being arranged to use a set of functional
components, such as database operations, logical operations, presentation functions, user
input/output interfaces, logging and monitoring, to convert the application specification (10) into
the software application,

The application specification (10) comprising:

- a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;
- b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common rules with regard to the software application; and
- c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes.

Claim 14 (original): Method according to claim 13, in which a data class hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended data class as comprising one or more inherited characteristics of an associated super data class.

Claim 15 (currently amended): Method according to claim 13 ~~or 14, in which~~
wherein the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of fields, each field representing an element for storing data values related to an object.

Claim 16 (original): Method according to claim 15, in which a field hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended field as comprising one or more inherited field characteristics of an associated super field.

Claim 17 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 16, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of categories, which can be used to structure all data related to an object.

Claim 18 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 17, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) further comprises a specification of a plurality of domains, a domain being a list of lookup values that can be references to from the specification of fields.

Claim 19 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 18, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the permissions are chosen from the group of select permission; read permission; update permission; insert permission; copy permission; delete permission.

Claim 20 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 19, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the values of each permission is one of the group of: no; yes; follow foreign object; own; constraint.

Claim 21 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 20, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) further comprises a

computational specification (8) for describing further computational or logic functional parts of the software application.

Claim 22 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 21, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) further comprises an appearance specification (9) for defining non-functional parts of the software application, such as user interface parts.

Claim 23 (currently amended): Method according to ~~one of the claims 13 through 22, in which~~ claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) is stored as an XML file.

Claim 24 (currently amended): Method for building a software application comprising

Defining an application specification (10) and storing the application specification (10), which application specification is arranged to be used in a method for executing a software application according to ~~one of the claims 12 through 23~~ claim 12.

Claim 25 (currently amended): Computer program product comprising computer readable code, which allows a computer when loaded with the computer readable code to implement a generic application engine (5) as used in the system according to ~~one of the claims 1 to 11, or in the method as used in the method according to one of the claims 13 to 23~~ claim 1.

Claim 26 (original): Computer program product comprising computer readable code, which allows a computer when loaded with the computer readable code to define an application specification (10) which is adapted to be entered in a generic application engine (5) running on the computer, the application specification comprising:

- a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;
- b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common rules with regard to the software application; and
- c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes.